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Human Rights Council
Twenty-eighth session
Agenda item 8
Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council

28/28. Contribution of the Human Rights Council to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem of 2016

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007 and 16/21 of 25 March 2011, and decision 5/101 of 18 June 2007,

Recalling in particular that the Human Rights Council has the mandate to, inter alia, promote universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind and in a fair and equal manner, to serve as a forum for dialogue on thematic issues on all human rights, and to promote the effective coordination and mainstreaming of human rights within the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the universality, interdependence, indivisibility and interrelatedness of human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and consequently elaborated in other human rights instruments,

Recalling the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Emphasizing the importance of both the universality of the three above-mentioned international drug-control conventions and their implementation, noting that they concern the health and welfare of humankind, and noting the need to promote adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while preventing their

diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the said international drug control conventions,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotics Drugs of the Implementation by Member States of the said Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Underlining that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an evidenced-based, integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced and comprehensive approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, and reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and, in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, non-discrimination, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Recognizing that the world drug problem undermines sustainable development, political stability and democratic institutions, including efforts to eradicate poverty, and threatens national security and the rule of law, and that drug trafficking and abuse pose a major threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and their families and lead to the loss of human lives,

Noting the developments at the national, subregional, regional and global level and the cooperation undertaken by regional organizations and cross-regional activities in addressing the world drug problem,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012 on international cooperation against the world drug problem, in which the Assembly decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments by, inter alia, addressing all the consequences of the world drug problem, including in the heath, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council concerning the world drug problem, particularly Assembly resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014 and Council resolution 2014/24 of 16 July 2014, both entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

Recalling also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 57/5, on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and 51/12, on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities for the promotion of human rights in the implementation of the international drug control treaties,

Recognizing the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotic Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, as well as the role of the World Health Organization and of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, and recalling that the General Assembly decided that the Commission should lead the preparatory process for the special session in 2016 by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard invited the President of the Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process,

Stressing that the General Assembly decided, as recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, that the special session would have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice,

1. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a study, in consultation with States, United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders, to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its thirtieth session, on the impact of the world drug problem on the enjoyment of human rights, and recommendations on respect for and the protection and promotion of human rights in the context of the world drug problem, with particular consideration for the needs of persons affected and persons in vulnerable situations;

2. *Decides* to convene a panel discussion at its thirtieth session on the impact of the world drug problem on the enjoyment of human rights, informed by the findings contained in the study prepared by the High Commissioner, to have a constructive and inclusive dialogue on this issue with relevant stakeholders, including specialized United Nations agencies and civil society and with the participation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a report on the panel discussion in the form of a summary;

3. *Invites* the High Commissioner to submit to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the contribution of the Human Rights Council to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016;

4. *Invites* the General Assembly to take into account the contribution of the Human Rights Council during its special session on the world drug problem in 2016 and of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs during the preparatory process, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and established practices.

58th meeting
27 March 2015

[Adopted without a vote.]